

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 HEW-08 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCI-06 EPA-04

CEQ-02 AID-20 EB-11 TRSE-00 H-03 AGR-20 IGA-02 RSR-01

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R 311119Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5552

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 WARSAW 4482

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, PL, US

SUBJECT: WEINBERGER VISIT: MEETING WITH POLISH

UNITED WORKERS' PARTY FIRST SECRETARY

EDWARD GIEREK, 10:30 A.M., AUGUST 30, 1973

FOR DR. AUSTIN

REFS: WARSAW 4472 AND WARSAW 4465

1. THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION HAS NOT
BEEN CLEARED BY SECRETARY WEINBERGER. THE MEETING
TOOK PLACE IN THE FIRST SECRETARY'S CONFERENCE ROOM
IN THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE BUILDING AND LASTED FORTY-FIVE
MINUTES. HENRYK SOKOLSKI WAS THE INTERPRETER.
MINISTER SLIWINSKI ACCOMPANIED GIEREK AND THE
AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANIED THE SECRETARY.

2. THE SECRETARY EXPRESSED HIS GRATIFICATION AT THE
OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH SECRETARY GIEREK, NOTING
THAT THE MEETING WAS TAKING PLACE ON A DAY WHEN THE
WEATHER WAS BEAUTIFUL, AS IT HAD BEEN THROUGHOUT HIS
VISIT TO POLAND. THE HOSPITALITY HE HAD RECEIVED
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HAD BEEN OUTSTANDING. GIEREK SAID THAT SUCH
WEATHER WAS ARRANGED ONLY FOR GUESTS WHOM THE POLES
RESPECT. AS FOR THE HOSPITALITY, IT CORRESPONDED TO
THE POLISH PROVERB: EVERYTHING WE HAVE IN OUR HOUSE

IS YOURS. GIerek said he hoped that President Nixon was in the best of health. The Secretary said the President had asked him to tell Gierek how much he had appreciated the warm hospitality he had received on his visits to Poland: as Vice President, when he was out of office, and as President. The President had asked him to transmit to the First Secretary best wishes for his health. Gierek said that the state of his health was, he thought, apparent (following his return to Warsaw from vacation, he was lightly sunburned). For their part, the Polish leadership particularly appreciated the President's visit. He wanted to tell the Secretary that all the agreements that had then been reached had been fulfilled. For their part, the Polish leaders had no particular complaints. However, he must add that their ambitions for the further development of US-Polish relations were still greater.

3. The Secretary said that it was good to have high ambitions. In the field with which he was concerned, we had been very pleased with what had been achieved and would like to keep these programs going. Our Treasury estimated that in from five to seven years, or thereabouts, the PL-480 funds would run out. Gierek interjected that this would be bad. The Secretary said that Minister Slivinski and he had been talking about how to continue the programs now being financed by PL-480 funds. He had to note that we could not be sure of congressional action nor, as the First Secretary knew, did the administration control the Congress. Gierek interjected: "It's too bad you don't". The Secretary said he had read all the articles in the New York Times about the First Secretary's assumption of his responsibilities at the end of 1970 and had been very impressed by his decisiveness and the way in which he had corrected the situation

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WHICH HAD CONFRONTED HIM THEN. CONSEQUENTLY, HE HAD LONG LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING THE FIRST SECRETARY.

4. Gierek said he highly appreciated the Secretary's evaluation, but that he had been only one of many who had worked on these problems. The Poles wanted to bring their country into the ranks of the highly developed nations. He supposed that Minister Slivinski had shown the Secretary something of where Poland had come from. The Secretary said he had seen something of this. Gierek said the ambassador could add to that, since he had been here shortly after the war. The Polish people want to live better. What the leadership

DOES HAS THE PURPOSE OF ENABLING THE PEOPLE TO LIVE BETTER. HENCE THE WIDESPREAD CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING, THE EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION AND ON THE SUPPLY OF FOOD AND OTHER CONSUMER ARTICLES. HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES HAD TALKED WITH PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON ABOUT THEIR GOALS AND THE WAYS BY MEANS OF WHICH THEIR ACHIEVEMENT COULD BE FURTHERED.

5. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT WANTED TO ESTABLISH A FIRM BASIS FOR PEACE AND PARTICULARLY WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. HE BELIEVES IN RECIPROCITY, SO THAT THERE WILL BE A TWO-WAY STREET. GIEREK SAID HE AGREED WITH THIS. THE POLISH PARTNER WOULD DO EVERYTHING IT COULD. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT IF IT WERE REALIZED IN THE UNITED STATES THAT THIS WAS THE POLISH APPROACH, THAT WOULD BE THE MOST USEFUL THING FOR THE FURTHERING OF OUR RELATIONS. THE SECRETARY REFERRED TO NEW STEPS THAT COULD BE TAKEN IN OUR EXCHANGES, SUCH AS THE HIGH-SCHOOL-TEACHER EXCHANGE, WHICH HE HAD MENTIONED TO MINISTER OF EDUCATION KUBERSKI. THE SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PEOPLE IN AMERICA SEE THE FILM ON THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WARSAW, WHICH HE HAD SEEN YESTERDAY. THINGS LIKE THE TEACHER EXCHANGE AND THE FILM WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO OUR BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER. IN VIEW OF THE RECONSTRUCTION IN WARSAW, THE ACTS WHICH HAD DESTROYED IT WERE SIMPLY SENSELESS; TWENTY YEARS LATER, THIS BEAUTIFUL CITY HAD ARISEN AGAIN. WHEN THAT WAS WELL

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REALIZED IN OUR COUNTRY, WE WOULD BE WELL ON THE ROAD TO BETTER RELATIONS.

6. GIEREK SAID THAT THE MEMORY OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED-- SIX MILLION DEAD, POLAND'S DESTROYED CITIES--PROMPTS THE POLES "TO DO WHAT WE CAN DO, WITH OUR FRIENDS, IN BOTH EAST AND WEST--AND WE SEE FRIENDS IN BOTH THE EAST AND THE WEST--TO BUILD A BETTER LIFE FOR OUR PEOPLE". IT WAS IN THIS CONNECTION THAT HE WAS SORRY TO RAISE ONE POINT THAT SURPRISES HIM. THIS WAS THE FACT THAT ONE OF THEIR FIRMS HAD MADE AN AGREEMENT WITH AN ELECTRONICS COMPANY, WHICH HAD APPROACHED THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR AN EXPORT LICENSE (THE REFERENCE WAS EVIDENTLY TO THE FAIRCHILD APPLICATION FOR AN EXPORT LICENSE FOR INTEGRATED-CIRCUIT TECHNOLOGY). BUT FOR SOME EIGHT OR NINE MONTHS NOW, THERE HAD BEEN NO POSITIVE RESPONSE. OTHER COUNTRIES HAD LEARNED ABOUT THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS AND HAD SAID THAT THEY WERE READY TO SELL THE TECHNOLOGY TO POLAND. HOWEVER, THE POLES WERE LOATH TO BUY ELSEWHERE; AS THE SAYING GOES, WHY REACH WITH YOUR LEFT HAND TO TOUCH YOUR RIGHT EAR. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF THIS

MATTER, BUT WOULD LOOK INTO IT. HE HOPED THE POLISH
DAVIES

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R 311130Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
SECSTATE WASHDC 5553

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ORDER COULD BE ACCOMMODATED FOR MANY REASONS; ONE
WAS THAT, IF THEY BOUGHT FROM THE US., THEY WOULD GET
A BETTER PRODUCT. GIEREK SAID THAT, WITH REGARD TO
LICENSES, THERE HAS BEEN A GREAT DELAO F IMPROVEMENT.
THE POLES WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE US APPROACH THEM
WITHOUT TOO MUCH SUSPICIO,. "A DEVELOPED POLAND WOULD
BE A STRONG POLAND AND S STRONG POLAND MENAS A STRONG
AND PERMANENT FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES." THE
SECRETARY SAID HE AGREED THAT A WELL-DEVELOPED AND
STRONG POLAND WOULD BE A STRONG AND PERMANENT FRIEND OF
THE UNITED STATES. ONE OF THE KEYS TO THIS WAS THE
RECIPROCITY HE HAD MENTIONED EARLIER AND THE
REALIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES THAT RECIPROCITY
EXISTS, AS PROVED BY OBSERVATION. THE SECRETARY SAID
HE DIDN'T BELIEVE IN DWELLING ON THE PAST; THE
IMPORTANT THING IS THE FUTURE. WE HAVE REACHED A
PLATUAU IN OUR RELATIONS FROM WHICH WE SHOULD PROGRES
WITH A GOOD SPIRIT ON BOTH SIDES. GIEREK SAID THAT
EVERY NATION, NO DOUBT, THINKS OF PROBLEMS IN TERMS
OF ITS SIZE. FOR THE BIT COUNTRY, SMALL PROBLEMS
DON'T EVEN EXIST. FOR A SMALL COUNTRY, EVEN SAMLL
PROBLEMS CAN SEEM BERY BIG. HE HAS SPOKEN ABOUT NEW
TECHNOLOGY; THIS MIGHTNOT SEEM VERY IMPORTANT TO
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AMERICANS. BUT FOR THE POLES IT IS VERY IMPORTANT.

THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THAT WAS A VALID POINT AND A GOOD MESSAGE FOR HIM TO CONVEY TO THE PRESIDENT AND DR. KISSINGER.

7. GIerek asked the Secretary to convey his personal felicitations to Dr. Kissinger, with whom the leadership had had very good discussions during the President's visit here. "We in Poland say that every discussion with a clever man is good." The Secretary said that the Senate had not yet acted on Dr. Kissinger's appointment, so he was not yet sure when it would be confirmed, the Senate was controlled by the other party. Gierek said that he was sure the President's authority would assure the proper action. The Secretary said that Dr. Kissinger was indeed a very clever man and, he emphasized, a very strong one. He said that he had had the pleasure of conveying Secretary Rogers's warm person regards to Minister Olszowski.

8. Gierek said the Secretary had seen only Warsaw and Kralaw and only a little of each of them. "When will you come back again?" The Secretary said he hoped it could be soon, but, since the department he headed was a big one, it was better not to be away for too many days at a time. He said that Mrs. Weinberger had very much enjoyed her visit and would like to spend more time in Poland. Gierek said the Secretary and Mr. Weinberger would be most cordially welcome. The Secretary said he would like to have a chance to visit the first Secretary's home territory. Gierek said his homeland was not so beautiful as California, but in his eyes it was nevertheless beautiful. It was a country of coal and steel, where the people did not have an easy life and where the problems of pollution were severe. One thousand tons of dust a day were precipitated on Katowice from the air.

9. THE SECRETARY SAYS THAT SMOKESTACKS POURING
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Forth smoke were regarded just a few years ago as a symbol of prosperity; now you were put in jail for this. That was why Minister Slawinski and he had put provisions in their agreement on environmental protection. Gierek said that the Poles were following the results in the US in this field with great interest. In Poland, too, some interesting efforts had been introduced. The Secretary said that we hoped to profit from Polish efforts. Pollution was no respecter of boundaries. We were also interested in

THE EFFORTS BEING MADE IN THE SURGICAL AND REHABILITATION FIELDS. HE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE RESULTS OBTAINED BY DR. WEISS AT KONSTANCIN IN THE TREATMENT OF SPINAL-CORD INJURIES, FOR EXAMPLE. IN HIS TOAST TO DR. WEISS, HE HAD SAID THAT IT WAS PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE THAT THIS EFFORT SHOULD BE SO FAR ADVANCED IN POLAND, WHERE THE WHOLE COUNTRY HAD SUCCEEDED IN REHABILITATING ITSELF. THE POLES WERE EXPERTS IN THIS FIELD. GIerek SAID THAT, COMING FROM SILESIA, WHERE THERE WERE MANY INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, HE HAD TO MENTION THAT, AT REPTY SLASKIE, A REHABILITATION CENTER THREE TIMES BIGGER THAN THAT AT KONSTANCIN HAD BEEN BUILT. ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE WERE BEING TREATED THERE AND UNDERGOING REHABILITATION. IT WAS A KIND OF GREAT REPAIR SHOP FOR HUMAN BEINGS. THE SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD MAKE IT A POINT TO SEE THIS CENTER ON THE FIRST DAY OF HIS NEXT VISIT TO POLAND. TURNING TO MINISTER SLIWINSKI, GIerek INSTRUCTED HIM TO TAKE THE AMBASSADOR IN THE MEANTIME TO REPTY SLASKIE AND SHOW HIM WHAT WAS BEING DONE THERE. (SLIWINSKI LATER SUGGESTED A VISIT AT THE END OF SEPT OR BEGINNING OF OCTOBER). THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THIS WAS VITAL WORK AND WHAT HE HAD ALREADY SEEN AT KONSTANCIN WAS VERY IMPRESSIVE. HE FELT THAT WE COULD LEARN A LOT FROM WHAT WAS BEING DONE IN POLAND. THIS IS THE KIND OF THING OUR EXCHANGE PROGRAM CONCENTRATES ON. GIerek SAID THE LEADERSHIP WAS FULLY SATISFIED WITH OUR EXCHANGE EFFORTS AND WISHED TO CONTINUE TO TAKE VERY GOOD CARE OF THIS. THE SECRETARY SAID IT WAS VERY HELPFUL TO HEAR THIS EVALUATION OF OUR EXCHANGE EFFORTS.

10. GIerek SAID THAT HE WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING
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THE SECRETARY AGAIN ON HIS SECOND VISIT. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE WAS SURE HIS PRESENT VISIT WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY THOSE OF SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES. HE WOULD GIVE AN ENTHUSIASTIC REPORT TO THOSE WHO CAME. GIerek ASKED THE SECRETARY TO GIVE THE PRESIDENT ASSURANCES OF HIS RESPECT AND BEST WISHES FOR HIS HEALTH AND SUCCESS IN HIS VERY RESPONSIBLE POST. HE SAID HE WAS HOPING TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY OF CONVEYING SUCH WISHES HIMSELF. THE SECRETARY SAID HE WAS SURE THAT THERE WOULD BE SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY.

DAVIES

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SECRETARY EDWARD GIerek, 10:30 A.M.,